

This key should allow you to understand why you choose the option you did (beyond just getting a question right or wrong). More instructions on how to use this key can be found [here](#).

If you have a suggestion to make the keys better, please fill out the short survey [here](#).

*Note: This key is auto-generated and may contain issues and/or errors. The keys are reviewed after each exam to ensure grading is done accurately. If there are issues (like duplicate options), they are noted in the offline gradebook. The keys are a work-in-progress to give students as many resources to improve as possible.*

1. Perform the division below. Then, find the intervals that correspond to the quotient in the form  $ax^2 + bx + c$  and remainder  $r$ .

$$\frac{10x^3 - 42x^2 + 37}{x - 4}$$

The solution is  $10x^2 - 2x - 8 + \frac{5}{x - 4}$ , which is option B.

- A.  $a \in [7, 15], b \in [-89, -81], c \in [325, 333]$ , and  $r \in [-1276, -1272]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor.

- B.  $a \in [7, 15], b \in [-3, 2], c \in [-8, -4]$ , and  $r \in [4, 9]$ .

\* This is the solution!

- C.  $a \in [7, 15], b \in [-15, -10], c \in [-38, -35]$ , and  $r \in [-74, -67]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number and subtracted rather than adding during synthetic division.

- D.  $a \in [38, 46], b \in [117, 128], c \in [472, 476]$ , and  $r \in [1924, 1933]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number rather than bringing the first factor down.

- E.  $a \in [38, 46], b \in [-204, -197], c \in [808, 817]$ , and  $r \in [-3200, -3192]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor AND multiplied the first factor rather than just bringing it down.

**General Comment:** Be sure to synthetically divide by the zero of the denominator! Also, make sure to include 0 placeholders for missing terms.

2. What are the *possible Integer* roots of the polynomial below?

$$f(x) = 3x^4 + 6x^3 + 6x^2 + 3x + 6$$

The solution is  $\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6$ , which is option B.

- A.  $\pm 1, \pm 3$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to the plus or minus factors of a1 only.

- B.  $\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6$

\* This is the solution **since we asked for the possible Integer roots!**

- C. All combinations of:  $\frac{\pm 1, \pm 3}{\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6}$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to the plus or minus of the inverse quotient (an/a0) of the factors.

- D. All combinations of:  $\frac{\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6}{\pm 1, \pm 3}$

This would have been the solution **if asked for the possible Rational roots!**

- E. There is no formula or theorem that tells us all possible Integer roots.

Distractor 4: Corresponds to not recognizing Integers as a subset of Rationals.

**General Comment:** We have a way to find the possible Rational roots. The possible Integer roots are the Integers in this list.

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3. Perform the division below. Then, find the intervals that correspond to the quotient in the form  $ax^2 + bx + c$  and remainder  $r$ .

$$\frac{15x^3 - 33x^2 - 96x - 50}{x - 4}$$

The solution is  $15x^2 + 27x + 12 + \frac{-2}{x - 4}$ , which is option A.

- A.  $a \in [14, 16]$ ,  $b \in [24, 34]$ ,  $c \in [12, 16]$ , and  $r \in [-9, 0]$ .

\* This is the solution!

- B.  $a \in [57, 64]$ ,  $b \in [207, 214]$ ,  $c \in [728, 736]$ , and  $r \in [2878, 2879]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number rather than bringing the first factor down.

- C.  $a \in [14, 16]$ ,  $b \in [-97, -88]$ ,  $c \in [275, 283]$ , and  $r \in [-1160, -1151]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor.

- D.  $a \in [14, 16]$ ,  $b \in [11, 15]$ ,  $c \in [-65, -59]$ , and  $r \in [-230, -226]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number and subtracted rather than adding during synthetic division.

- E.  $a \in [57, 64]$ ,  $b \in [-277, -269]$ ,  $c \in [996, 1002]$ , and  $r \in [-4037, -4026]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor AND multiplied the first factor rather than just bringing it down.

**General Comment:** Be sure to synthetically divide by the zero of the denominator!

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4. Factor the polynomial below completely, knowing that  $x + 5$  is a factor. Then, choose the intervals the zeros of the polynomial belong to, where  $z_1 \leq z_2 \leq z_3 \leq z_4$ . *To make the problem easier, all zeros are between -5 and 5.*

$$f(x) = 15x^4 + 29x^3 - 233x^2 + 3x + 90$$

The solution is  $[-5, -0.6, 0.667, 3]$ , which is option C.

- A.  $z_1 \in [-4, 1]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-1.52, -1.5]$ ,  $z_3 \in [1.55, 1.68]$ , and  $z_4 \in [4, 8]$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros AND inversing rational roots.

- B.  $z_1 \in [-7, -4]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-1.72, -1.66]$ ,  $z_3 \in [1.46, 1.55]$ , and  $z_4 \in [1, 4]$

Distractor 2: Corresponds to inversing rational roots.

- C.  $z_1 \in [-7, -4]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-0.62, -0.57]$ ,  $z_3 \in [0.64, 0.75]$ , and  $z_4 \in [1, 4]$

\* This is the solution!

D.  $z_1 \in [-4, 1]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-0.15, -0.04]$ ,  $z_3 \in [2.95, 3.07]$ , and  $z_4 \in [4, 8]$

Distractor 4: Corresponds to moving factors from one rational to another.

E.  $z_1 \in [-4, 1]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-0.67, -0.65]$ ,  $z_3 \in [0.55, 0.64]$ , and  $z_4 \in [4, 8]$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros.

**General Comment:** Remember to try the middle-most integers first as these normally are the zeros. Also, once you get it to a quadratic, you can use your other factoring techniques to finish factoring.

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5. Factor the polynomial below completely. Then, choose the intervals the zeros of the polynomial belong to, where  $z_1 \leq z_2 \leq z_3$ . *To make the problem easier, all zeros are between -5 and 5.*

$$f(x) = 10x^3 + 9x^2 - 28x - 12$$

The solution is  $[-2, -0.4, 1.5]$ , which is option C.

A.  $z_1 \in [-3.33, -2.61]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-0.02, 0.32]$ , and  $z_3 \in [1.78, 2.21]$

Distractor 4: Corresponds to moving factors from one rational to another.

B.  $z_1 \in [-2.82, -2.12]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-2.05, -1.75]$ , and  $z_3 \in [0.04, 0.93]$

Distractor 2: Corresponds to inversing rational roots.

C.  $z_1 \in [-2.38, -1.94]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-0.71, -0.38]$ , and  $z_3 \in [1.45, 1.66]$

\* This is the solution!

D.  $z_1 \in [-0.73, -0.52]$ ,  $z_2 \in [1.91, 2.19]$ , and  $z_3 \in [2.48, 2.61]$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros AND inversing rational roots.

E.  $z_1 \in [-1.57, -1.33]$ ,  $z_2 \in [0.32, 0.59]$ , and  $z_3 \in [1.78, 2.21]$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros.

**General Comment:** Remember to try the middle-most integers first as these normally are the zeros. Also, once you get it to a quadratic, you can use your other factoring techniques to finish factoring.

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6. Factor the polynomial below completely, knowing that  $x - 5$  is a factor. Then, choose the intervals the zeros of the polynomial belong to, where  $z_1 \leq z_2 \leq z_3 \leq z_4$ . *To make the problem easier, all zeros are between -5 and 5.*

$$f(x) = 10x^4 - 99x^3 + 308x^2 - 333x + 90$$

The solution is  $[0.4, 1.5, 3, 5]$ , which is option E.

A.  $z_1 \in [-5.14, -4.51]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-3.1, -2.9]$ ,  $z_3 \in [-2.91, -2.29]$ , and  $z_4 \in [-0.78, -0.64]$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros AND inversing rational roots.

B.  $z_1 \in [0.57, 0.97]$ ,  $z_2 \in [1.9, 3.4]$ ,  $z_3 \in [2.25, 3.29]$ , and  $z_4 \in [4.93, 5.07]$

Distractor 2: Corresponds to inversing rational roots.

C.  $z_1 \in [-5.14, -4.51]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-3.1, -2.9]$ ,  $z_3 \in [-1.97, -1.46]$ , and  $z_4 \in [-0.44, -0.38]$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros.

D.  $z_1 \in [-5.14, -4.51]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-3.1, -2.9]$ ,  $z_3 \in [-2.01, -1.57]$ , and  $z_4 \in [-0.3, -0.06]$

Distractor 4: Corresponds to moving factors from one rational to another.

E.  $z_1 \in [0.25, 0.54]$ ,  $z_2 \in [0.4, 2.2]$ ,  $z_3 \in [2.25, 3.29]$ , and  $z_4 \in [4.93, 5.07]$

\* This is the solution!

**General Comment:** Remember to try the middle-most integers first as these normally are the zeros. Also, once you get it to a quadratic, you can use your other factoring techniques to finish factoring.

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7. Perform the division below. Then, find the intervals that correspond to the quotient in the form  $ax^2 + bx + c$  and remainder  $r$ .

$$\frac{9x^3 + 39x^2 - 44}{x + 4}$$

The solution is  $9x^2 + 3x - 12 + \frac{4}{x + 4}$ , which is option E.

A.  $a \in [-39, -33]$ ,  $b \in [182, 186]$ ,  $c \in [-735, -729]$ , and  $r \in [2880, 2888]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number rather than bringing the first factor down.

B.  $a \in [-39, -33]$ ,  $b \in [-106, -102]$ ,  $c \in [-420, -411]$ , and  $r \in [-1728, -1723]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor AND multiplied the first factor rather than just bringing it down.

C.  $a \in [7, 16]$ ,  $b \in [-8, -5]$ ,  $c \in [28, 34]$ , and  $r \in [-196, -188]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number and subtracted rather than adding during synthetic division.

D.  $a \in [7, 16]$ ,  $b \in [71, 80]$ ,  $c \in [298, 307]$ , and  $r \in [1148, 1157]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor.

E.  $a \in [7, 16]$ ,  $b \in [0, 11]$ ,  $c \in [-14, -9]$ , and  $r \in [2, 10]$ .

\* This is the solution!

**General Comment:** Be sure to synthetically divide by the zero of the denominator! Also, make sure to include 0 placeholders for missing terms.

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8. Factor the polynomial below completely. Then, choose the intervals the zeros of the polynomial belong to, where  $z_1 \leq z_2 \leq z_3$ . *To make the problem easier, all zeros are between -5 and 5.*

$$f(x) = 6x^3 - 19x^2 - 9x + 36$$

The solution is  $[-1.33, 1.5, 3]$ , which is option A.

A.  $z_1 \in [-1.96, -1.17]$ ,  $z_2 \in [1.18, 1.64]$ , and  $z_3 \in [2, 3.4]$

\* This is the solution!

B.  $z_1 \in [-3.26, -2.9]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-0.79, -0.65]$ , and  $z_3 \in [0.2, 0.8]$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros AND inversing rational roots.

C.  $z_1 \in [-1.13, -0.74]$ ,  $z_2 \in [0.49, 0.98]$ , and  $z_3 \in [2, 3.4]$

Distractor 2: Corresponds to inversing rational roots.

D.  $z_1 \in [-3.26, -2.9]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-0.57, -0.38]$ , and  $z_3 \in [3.7, 5]$

Distractor 4: Corresponds to moving factors from one rational to another.

E.  $z_1 \in [-3.26, -2.9]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-1.57, -1.18]$ , and  $z_3 \in [1.2, 1.4]$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros.

**General Comment:** Remember to try the middle-most integers first as these normally are the zeros. Also, once you get it to a quadratic, you can use your other factoring techniques to finish factoring.

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9. Perform the division below. Then, find the intervals that correspond to the quotient in the form  $ax^2 + bx + c$  and remainder  $r$ .

$$\frac{20x^3 + 113x^2 + 142x + 42}{x + 4}$$

The solution is  $20x^2 + 33x + 10 + \frac{2}{x + 4}$ , which is option A.

A.  $a \in [15, 21]$ ,  $b \in [29, 34]$ ,  $c \in [9, 12]$ , and  $r \in [2, 3]$ .

\* This is the solution!

B.  $a \in [15, 21]$ ,  $b \in [191, 198]$ ,  $c \in [907, 915]$ , and  $r \in [3697, 3699]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor.

C.  $a \in [-84, -78]$ ,  $b \in [-207, -203]$ ,  $c \in [-694, -681]$ , and  $r \in [-2708, -2700]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor AND multiplied the first factor rather than just bringing it down.

D.  $a \in [15, 21]$ ,  $b \in [10, 14]$ ,  $c \in [73, 85]$ , and  $r \in [-347, -336]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number and subtracted rather than adding during synthetic division.

E.  $a \in [-84, -78]$ ,  $b \in [429, 434]$ ,  $c \in [-1591, -1588]$ , and  $r \in [6401, 6406]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number rather than bringing the first factor down.

**General Comment:** Be sure to synthetically divide by the zero of the denominator!

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10. What are the *possible Integer* roots of the polynomial below?

$$f(x) = 7x^4 + 2x^3 + 4x^2 + 3x + 5$$

The solution is  $\pm 1, \pm 5$ , which is option A.

A.  $\pm 1, \pm 5$

\* This is the solution **since we asked for the possible Integer roots!**

B. All combinations of:  $\frac{\pm 1, \pm 5}{\pm 1, \pm 7}$

This would have been the solution **if asked for the possible Rational roots!**

C.  $\pm 1, \pm 7$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to the plus or minus factors of a1 only.

D. All combinations of:  $\frac{\pm 1, \pm 7}{\pm 1, \pm 5}$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to the plus or minus of the inverse quotient (an/a0) of the factors.

E. There is no formula or theorem that tells us all possible Integer roots.

Distractor 4: Corresponds to not recognizing Integers as a subset of Rationals.

**General Comment:** We have a way to find the possible Rational roots. The possible Integer roots are the Integers in this list.

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11. Perform the division below. Then, find the intervals that correspond to the quotient in the form  $ax^2 + bx + c$  and remainder  $r$ .

$$\frac{15x^3 - 65x^2 + 82}{x - 4}$$

The solution is  $15x^2 - 5x - 20 + \frac{2}{x - 4}$ , which is option B.

- A.  $a \in [13, 16], b \in [-24, -15], c \in [-60, -55]$ , and  $r \in [-99, -97]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number and subtracted rather than adding during synthetic division.

- B.  $a \in [13, 16], b \in [-11, -1], c \in [-25, -13]$ , and  $r \in [-5, 4]$ .

\* This is the solution!

- C.  $a \in [60, 61], b \in [175, 181], c \in [697, 708]$ , and  $r \in [2882, 2889]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number rather than bringing the first factor down.

- D.  $a \in [13, 16], b \in [-125, -123], c \in [495, 504]$ , and  $r \in [-1919, -1912]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor.

- E.  $a \in [60, 61], b \in [-309, -304], c \in [1220, 1223]$ , and  $r \in [-4803, -4794]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor AND multiplied the first factor rather than just bringing it down.

**General Comment:** Be sure to synthetically divide by the zero of the denominator! Also, make sure to include 0 placeholders for missing terms.

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12. What are the *possible Rational* roots of the polynomial below?

$$f(x) = 6x^2 + 5x + 2$$

The solution is All combinations of:  $\frac{\pm 1, \pm 2}{\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6}$ , which is option B.

- A.  $\pm 1, \pm 2$

This would have been the solution **if asked for the possible Integer roots!**

- B. All combinations of:  $\frac{\pm 1, \pm 2}{\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6}$

\* This is the solution **since we asked for the possible Rational roots!**

- C. All combinations of:  $\frac{\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6}{\pm 1, \pm 2}$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to the plus or minus of the inverse quotient (an/a0) of the factors.

- D.  $\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to the plus or minus factors of a1 only.

- E. There is no formula or theorem that tells us all possible Rational roots.

Distractor 4: Corresponds to not recalling the theorem for rational roots of a polynomial.

**General Comment:** We have a way to find the possible Rational roots. The possible Integer roots are the Integers in this list.

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13. Perform the division below. Then, find the intervals that correspond to the quotient in the form  $ax^2 + bx + c$  and remainder  $r$ .

$$\frac{10x^3 - 38x^2 - 16x + 34}{x - 4}$$

The solution is  $10x^2 + 2x - 8 + \frac{2}{x - 4}$ , which is option C.

- A.  $a \in [37, 41]$ ,  $b \in [119, 126]$ ,  $c \in [468, 475]$ , and  $r \in [1922, 1924]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number rather than bringing the first factor down.

- B.  $a \in [5, 14]$ ,  $b \in [-78, -74]$ ,  $c \in [296, 303]$ , and  $r \in [-1152, -1147]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor.

- C.  $a \in [5, 14]$ ,  $b \in [-3, 4]$ ,  $c \in [-11, -3]$ , and  $r \in [-1, 3]$ .

\* This is the solution!

- D.  $a \in [37, 41]$ ,  $b \in [-201, -193]$ ,  $c \in [776, 778]$ , and  $r \in [-3074, -3063]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor AND multiplied the first factor rather than just bringing it down.

- E.  $a \in [5, 14]$ ,  $b \in [-10, -2]$ ,  $c \in [-42, -39]$ , and  $r \in [-86, -82]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number and subtracted rather than adding during synthetic division.

**General Comment:** Be sure to synthetically divide by the zero of the denominator!

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14. Factor the polynomial below completely, knowing that  $x + 4$  is a factor. Then, choose the intervals the zeros of the polynomial belong to, where  $z_1 \leq z_2 \leq z_3 \leq z_4$ . *To make the problem easier, all zeros are between -5 and 5.*

$$f(x) = 20x^4 + 13x^3 - 253x^2 + 78x + 72$$

The solution is  $[-4, -0.4, 0.75, 3]$ , which is option E.

- A.  $z_1 \in [-3.3, -2.6]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-1.16, -0.5]$ ,  $z_3 \in [0.23, 0.44]$ , and  $z_4 \in [3.1, 4.6]$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros.

- B.  $z_1 \in [-3.3, -2.6]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-1.59, -1.31]$ ,  $z_3 \in [2.3, 2.69]$ , and  $z_4 \in [3.1, 4.6]$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros AND inverting rational roots.

- C.  $z_1 \in [-4.7, -3.5]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-2.67, -2.31]$ ,  $z_3 \in [1.2, 1.91]$ , and  $z_4 \in [1.5, 3.2]$

Distractor 2: Corresponds to inverting rational roots.

- D.  $z_1 \in [-3.3, -2.6]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-3.23, -2.61]$ ,  $z_3 \in [-0.05, 0.12]$ , and  $z_4 \in [3.1, 4.6]$

Distractor 4: Corresponds to moving factors from one rational to another.

- E.  $z_1 \in [-4.7, -3.5]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-0.5, 0.04]$ ,  $z_3 \in [0.72, 0.88]$ , and  $z_4 \in [1.5, 3.2]$

\* This is the solution!

**General Comment:** Remember to try the middle-most integers first as these normally are the zeros. Also, once you get it to a quadratic, you can use your other factoring techniques to finish factoring.

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15. Factor the polynomial below completely. Then, choose the intervals the zeros of the polynomial belong to, where  $z_1 \leq z_2 \leq z_3$ . *To make the problem easier, all zeros are between -5 and 5.*

$$f(x) = 6x^3 - 1x^2 - 39x - 36$$

The solution is  $[-1.5, -1.33, 3]$ , which is option E.

- A.  $z_1 \in [-0.79, -0.48]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-0.68, -0.58]$ , and  $z_3 \in [2.6, 3.4]$

Distractor 2: Corresponds to inversing rational roots.

- B.  $z_1 \in [-3.4, -2.82]$ ,  $z_2 \in [1.28, 1.47]$ , and  $z_3 \in [1, 1.6]$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros.

- C.  $z_1 \in [-3.4, -2.82]$ ,  $z_2 \in [0.56, 0.82]$ , and  $z_3 \in [-0.2, 1.1]$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros AND inversing rational roots.

- D.  $z_1 \in [-3.4, -2.82]$ ,  $z_2 \in [0.36, 0.66]$ , and  $z_3 \in [3.4, 5.4]$

Distractor 4: Corresponds to moving factors from one rational to another.

- E.  $z_1 \in [-2.03, -1.3]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-1.4, -1.18]$ , and  $z_3 \in [2.6, 3.4]$

\* This is the solution!

**General Comment:** Remember to try the middle-most integers first as these normally are the zeros. Also, once you get it to a quadratic, you can use your other factoring techniques to finish factoring.

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16. Factor the polynomial below completely, knowing that  $x - 4$  is a factor. Then, choose the intervals the zeros of the polynomial belong to, where  $z_1 \leq z_2 \leq z_3 \leq z_4$ . *To make the problem easier, all zeros are between -5 and 5.*

$$f(x) = 8x^4 - 6x^3 - 189x^2 + 265x + 300$$

The solution is  $[-5, -0.75, 2.5, 4]$ , which is option A.

- A.  $z_1 \in [-5.9, -4.4]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-0.82, -0.46]$ ,  $z_3 \in [2.49, 2.51]$ , and  $z_4 \in [2.7, 4.9]$

\* This is the solution!

- B.  $z_1 \in [-4.7, -2.8]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-0.5, -0.38]$ ,  $z_3 \in [1.33, 1.35]$ , and  $z_4 \in [4.7, 5.3]$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros AND inversing rational roots.

- C.  $z_1 \in [-5.9, -4.4]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-4.11, -3.8]$ ,  $z_3 \in [0.35, 0.38]$ , and  $z_4 \in [4.7, 5.3]$

Distractor 4: Corresponds to moving factors from one rational to another.

- D.  $z_1 \in [-4.7, -2.8]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-2.96, -2.39]$ ,  $z_3 \in [0.74, 0.76]$ , and  $z_4 \in [4.7, 5.3]$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros.

- E.  $z_1 \in [-5.9, -4.4]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-1.42, -1.05]$ ,  $z_3 \in [0.39, 0.41]$ , and  $z_4 \in [2.7, 4.9]$

Distractor 2: Corresponds to inversing rational roots.

**General Comment:** Remember to try the middle-most integers first as these normally are the zeros. Also, once you get it to a quadratic, you can use your other factoring techniques to finish factoring.

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17. Perform the division below. Then, find the intervals that correspond to the quotient in the form  $ax^2 + bx + c$  and remainder  $r$ .

$$\frac{10x^3 - 70x + 65}{x + 3}$$

The solution is  $10x^2 - 30x + 20 + \frac{5}{x + 3}$ , which is option E.

- A.  $a \in [7, 12], b \in [30, 33], c \in [20, 26]$ , and  $r \in [124, 130]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor.

- B.  $a \in [-38, -25], b \in [90, 93], c \in [-344, -335]$ , and  $r \in [1078, 1091]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number rather than bringing the first factor down.

- C.  $a \in [-38, -25], b \in [-91, -85], c \in [-344, -335]$ , and  $r \in [-958, -953]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor AND multiplied the first factor rather than just bringing it down.

- D.  $a \in [7, 12], b \in [-40, -39], c \in [89, 91]$ , and  $r \in [-298, -294]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number and subtracted rather than adding during synthetic division.

- E.  $a \in [7, 12], b \in [-35, -29], c \in [20, 26]$ , and  $r \in [2, 13]$ .

\* This is the solution!

**General Comment:** Be sure to synthetically divide by the zero of the denominator! Also, make sure to include 0 placeholders for missing terms.

---

18. Factor the polynomial below completely. Then, choose the intervals the zeros of the polynomial belong to, where  $z_1 \leq z_2 \leq z_3$ . *To make the problem easier, all zeros are between -5 and 5.*

$$f(x) = 20x^3 - 33x^2 - 20x + 12$$

The solution is  $[-0.75, 0.4, 2]$ , which is option B.

- A.  $z_1 \in [-2.02, -1.65], z_2 \in [-2.77, -1.28]$ , and  $z_3 \in [0.09, 0.38]$

Distractor 4: Corresponds to moving factors from one rational to another.

- B.  $z_1 \in [-1.2, -0.31], z_2 \in [0.22, 0.44]$ , and  $z_3 \in [1.92, 2.22]$

\* This is the solution!

- C.  $z_1 \in [-1.63, -1.11], z_2 \in [1.83, 2.91]$ , and  $z_3 \in [2.28, 2.58]$

Distractor 2: Corresponds to inverting rational roots.

- D.  $z_1 \in [-2.55, -2.31], z_2 \in [-2.77, -1.28]$ , and  $z_3 \in [1.1, 1.38]$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros AND inverting rational roots.

- E.  $z_1 \in [-2.02, -1.65], z_2 \in [-0.52, -0.21]$ , and  $z_3 \in [0.69, 0.98]$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros.

**General Comment:** Remember to try the middle-most integers first as these normally are the zeros. Also, once you get it to a quadratic, you can use your other factoring techniques to finish factoring.

---

19. Perform the division below. Then, find the intervals that correspond to the quotient in the form  $ax^2 + bx + c$  and remainder  $r$ .

$$\frac{15x^3 + 67x^2 + 94x + 35}{x + 2}$$

The solution is  $15x^2 + 37x + 20 + \frac{-5}{x+2}$ , which is option A.

- A.  $a \in [13, 18]$ ,  $b \in [37, 39]$ ,  $c \in [16, 24]$ , and  $r \in [-11, -3]$ .

\* This is the solution!

- B.  $a \in [-31, -28]$ ,  $b \in [6, 13]$ ,  $c \in [104, 113]$ , and  $r \in [251, 257]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor AND multiplied the first factor rather than just bringing it down.

- C.  $a \in [-31, -28]$ ,  $b \in [125, 129]$ ,  $c \in [-161, -159]$ , and  $r \in [354, 357]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number rather than bringing the first factor down.

- D.  $a \in [13, 18]$ ,  $b \in [92, 101]$ ,  $c \in [284, 289]$ , and  $r \in [606, 615]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor.

- E.  $a \in [13, 18]$ ,  $b \in [20, 23]$ ,  $c \in [24, 34]$ , and  $r \in [-50, -46]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number and subtracted rather than adding during synthetic division.

**General Comment:** Be sure to synthetically divide by the zero of the denominator!

---

20. What are the *possible Integer* roots of the polynomial below?

$$f(x) = 6x^4 + 4x^3 + 7x^2 + 4x + 7$$

The solution is  $\pm 1, \pm 7$ , which is option B.

- A. All combinations of:  $\frac{\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6}{\pm 1, \pm 7}$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to the plus or minus of the inverse quotient ( $a_n/a_0$ ) of the factors.

- B.  $\pm 1, \pm 7$

\* This is the solution **since we asked for the possible Integer roots!**

- C.  $\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to the plus or minus factors of  $a_1$  only.

- D. All combinations of:  $\frac{\pm 1, \pm 7}{\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6}$

This would have been the solution **if asked for the possible Rational roots!**

- E. There is no formula or theorem that tells us all possible Integer roots.

Distractor 4: Corresponds to not recognizing Integers as a subset of Rationals.

**General Comment:** We have a way to find the possible Rational roots. The possible Integer roots are the Integers in this list.

---

21. Perform the division below. Then, find the intervals that correspond to the quotient in the form  $ax^2 + bx + c$  and remainder  $r$ .

$$\frac{9x^3 + 21x^2 - 7}{x + 2}$$

The solution is  $9x^2 + 3x - 6 + \frac{5}{x + 2}$ , which is option D.

- A.  $a \in [8, 17], b \in [36, 48], c \in [77, 84]$ , and  $r \in [149, 151]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor.

- B.  $a \in [8, 17], b \in [-8, -2], c \in [13, 21]$ , and  $r \in [-65, -60]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number and subtracted rather than adding during synthetic division.

- C.  $a \in [-18, -14], b \in [54, 60], c \in [-114, -113]$ , and  $r \in [219, 224]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number rather than bringing the first factor down.

- D.  $a \in [8, 17], b \in [3, 8], c \in [-11, -3]$ , and  $r \in [4, 14]$ .

\* This is the solution!

- E.  $a \in [-18, -14], b \in [-17, -10], c \in [-32, -25]$ , and  $r \in [-69, -66]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor AND multiplied the first factor rather than just bringing it down.

**General Comment:** Be sure to synthetically divide by the zero of the denominator! Also, make sure to include 0 placeholders for missing terms.

---

22. What are the *possible Rational* roots of the polynomial below?

$$f(x) = 4x^4 + 6x^3 + 3x^2 + 7x + 2$$

The solution is All combinations of:  $\frac{\pm 1, \pm 2}{\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4}$ , which is option B.

- A. All combinations of:  $\frac{\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4}{\pm 1, \pm 2}$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to the plus or minus of the inverse quotient (an/a0) of the factors.

- B. All combinations of:  $\frac{\pm 1, \pm 2}{\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4}$

\* This is the solution **since we asked for the possible Rational roots!**

- C.  $\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to the plus or minus factors of a1 only.

- D.  $\pm 1, \pm 2$

This would have been the solution **if asked for the possible Integer roots!**

- E. There is no formula or theorem that tells us all possible Rational roots.

Distractor 4: Corresponds to not recalling the theorem for rational roots of a polynomial.

**General Comment:** We have a way to find the possible Rational roots. The possible Integer roots are the Integers in this list.

---

23. Perform the division below. Then, find the intervals that correspond to the quotient in the form  $ax^2 + bx + c$  and remainder  $r$ .

$$\frac{20x^3 - 48x^2 - 116x - 43}{x - 4}$$

The solution is  $20x^2 + 32x + 12 + \frac{5}{x - 4}$ , which is option C.

- A.  $a \in [19, 24]$ ,  $b \in [12, 13]$ ,  $c \in [-85, -79]$ , and  $r \in [-284, -280]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number and subtracted rather than adding during synthetic division.

- B.  $a \in [19, 24]$ ,  $b \in [-131, -125]$ ,  $c \in [391, 398]$ , and  $r \in [-1632, -1622]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor.

- C.  $a \in [19, 24]$ ,  $b \in [31, 38]$ ,  $c \in [8, 19]$ , and  $r \in [2, 9]$ .

\* This is the solution!

- D.  $a \in [80, 86]$ ,  $b \in [-370, -364]$ ,  $c \in [1356, 1360]$ , and  $r \in [-5472, -5466]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor AND multiplied the first factor rather than just bringing it down.

- E.  $a \in [80, 86]$ ,  $b \in [269, 275]$ ,  $c \in [969, 975]$ , and  $r \in [3842, 3846]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number rather than bringing the first factor down.

**General Comment:** Be sure to synthetically divide by the zero of the denominator!

---

24. Factor the polynomial below completely, knowing that  $x + 5$  is a factor. Then, choose the intervals the zeros of the polynomial belong to, where  $z_1 \leq z_2 \leq z_3 \leq z_4$ . *To make the problem easier, all zeros are between -5 and 5.*

$$f(x) = 25x^4 + 210x^3 + 507x^2 + 434x + 120$$

The solution is  $[-5, -2, -0.8, -0.6]$ , which is option D.

- A.  $z_1 \in [1.24, 1.46]$ ,  $z_2 \in [1.6, 1.94]$ ,  $z_3 \in [1.3, 2.2]$ , and  $z_4 \in [4.71, 5.09]$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros AND inverting rational roots.

- B.  $z_1 \in [0.1, 0.33]$ ,  $z_2 \in [1.89, 2.8]$ ,  $z_3 \in [2.8, 4.5]$ , and  $z_4 \in [4.71, 5.09]$

Distractor 4: Corresponds to moving factors from one rational to another.

- C.  $z_1 \in [-5.19, -4.79]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-2.35, -1.49]$ ,  $z_3 \in [-2, -1]$ , and  $z_4 \in [-1.56, -1.17]$

Distractor 2: Corresponds to inverting rational roots.

- D.  $z_1 \in [-5.19, -4.79]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-2.35, -1.49]$ ,  $z_3 \in [-1.1, 1.6]$ , and  $z_4 \in [-0.93, 0.31]$

\* This is the solution!

- E.  $z_1 \in [0.5, 0.72]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-0.1, 0.82]$ ,  $z_3 \in [1.3, 2.2]$ , and  $z_4 \in [4.71, 5.09]$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros.

**General Comment:** Remember to try the middle-most integers first as these normally are the zeros. Also, once you get it to a quadratic, you can use your other factoring techniques to finish factoring.

---

25. Factor the polynomial below completely. Then, choose the intervals the zeros of the polynomial belong to, where  $z_1 \leq z_2 \leq z_3$ . *To make the problem easier, all zeros are between -5 and 5.*

$$f(x) = 6x^3 + 5x^2 - 22x - 24$$

The solution is  $[-1.5, -1.33, 2]$ , which is option A.

- A.  $z_1 \in [-1.67, -1.39]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-1.42, -1.18]$ , and  $z_3 \in [1.7, 2.6]$

\* This is the solution!

- B.  $z_1 \in [-2.13, -1.96]$ ,  $z_2 \in [0.46, 0.55]$ , and  $z_3 \in [3.7, 4.4]$

Distractor 4: Corresponds to moving factors from one rational to another.

- C.  $z_1 \in [-2.13, -1.96]$ ,  $z_2 \in [0.62, 0.81]$ , and  $z_3 \in [-0.5, 1.2]$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros AND inversing rational roots.

- D.  $z_1 \in [-2.13, -1.96]$ ,  $z_2 \in [1.22, 1.4]$ , and  $z_3 \in [1, 1.9]$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros.

- E.  $z_1 \in [-1.04, -0.67]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-0.83, -0.6]$ , and  $z_3 \in [1.7, 2.6]$

Distractor 2: Corresponds to inversing rational roots.

**General Comment:** Remember to try the middle-most integers first as these normally are the zeros. Also, once you get it to a quadratic, you can use your other factoring techniques to finish factoring.

---

26. Factor the polynomial below completely, knowing that  $x - 4$  is a factor. Then, choose the intervals the zeros of the polynomial belong to, where  $z_1 \leq z_2 \leq z_3 \leq z_4$ . *To make the problem easier, all zeros are between -5 and 5.*

$$f(x) = 12x^4 - 53x^3 - 23x^2 + 202x - 120$$

The solution is  $[-2, 0.75, 1.667, 4]$ , which is option A.

- A.  $z_1 \in [-3.4, -1.4]$ ,  $z_2 \in [0.68, 0.95]$ ,  $z_3 \in [1.54, 1.71]$ , and  $z_4 \in [4, 6]$

\* This is the solution!

- B.  $z_1 \in [-3.4, -1.4]$ ,  $z_2 \in [0.52, 0.7]$ ,  $z_3 \in [1.2, 1.38]$ , and  $z_4 \in [4, 6]$

Distractor 2: Corresponds to inversing rational roots.

- C.  $z_1 \in [-5.6, -4.6]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-4.05, -3.87]$ ,  $z_3 \in [-0.43, -0.2]$ , and  $z_4 \in [0, 3]$

Distractor 4: Corresponds to moving factors from one rational to another.

- D.  $z_1 \in [-4.7, -3.1]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-1.44, -1.16]$ ,  $z_3 \in [-0.71, -0.32]$ , and  $z_4 \in [0, 3]$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros AND inversing rational roots.

- E.  $z_1 \in [-4.7, -3.1]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-1.75, -1.65]$ ,  $z_3 \in [-0.85, -0.62]$ , and  $z_4 \in [0, 3]$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros.

**General Comment:** Remember to try the middle-most integers first as these normally are the zeros. Also, once you get it to a quadratic, you can use your other factoring techniques to finish factoring.

---

27. Perform the division below. Then, find the intervals that correspond to the quotient in the form  $ax^2 + bx + c$  and remainder  $r$ .

$$\frac{8x^3 + 28x^2 - 33}{x + 3}$$

The solution is  $8x^2 + 4x - 12 + \frac{3}{x+3}$ , which is option A.

A.  $a \in [5, 12], b \in [4, 6], c \in [-13, -3]$ , and  $r \in [0, 8]$ .

\* This is the solution!

B.  $a \in [5, 12], b \in [52, 57], c \in [156, 158]$ , and  $r \in [435, 437]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor.

C.  $a \in [5, 12], b \in [-6, 1], c \in [13, 19]$ , and  $r \in [-104, -92]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number and subtracted rather than adding during synthetic division.

D.  $a \in [-24, -23], b \in [97, 102], c \in [-300, -290]$ , and  $r \in [864, 875]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number rather than bringing the first factor down.

E.  $a \in [-24, -23], b \in [-48, -40], c \in [-135, -124]$ , and  $r \in [-432, -427]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor AND multiplied the first factor rather than just bringing it down.

**General Comment:** Be sure to synthetically divide by the zero of the denominator! Also, make sure to include 0 placeholders for missing terms.

---

28. Factor the polynomial below completely. Then, choose the intervals the zeros of the polynomial belong to, where  $z_1 \leq z_2 \leq z_3$ . *To make the problem easier, all zeros are between -5 and 5.*

$$f(x) = 10x^3 - 41x^2 - 54x + 45$$

The solution is  $[-1.5, 0.6, 5]$ , which is option E.

A.  $z_1 \in [-6, -4.8], z_2 \in [-0.8, -0.3]$ , and  $z_3 \in [1, 1.6]$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros.

B.  $z_1 \in [-6, -4.8], z_2 \in [-3.3, -2.7]$ , and  $z_3 \in [-0.7, 0.6]$

Distractor 4: Corresponds to moving factors from one rational to another.

C.  $z_1 \in [-6, -4.8], z_2 \in [-2.9, -1.5]$ , and  $z_3 \in [0.6, 0.9]$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros AND inversing rational roots.

D.  $z_1 \in [-1, -0.1], z_2 \in [0.8, 2.1]$ , and  $z_3 \in [4.4, 5.9]$

Distractor 2: Corresponds to inversing rational roots.

E.  $z_1 \in [-1.9, -1.1], z_2 \in [-0.1, 1.2]$ , and  $z_3 \in [4.4, 5.9]$

\* This is the solution!

**General Comment:** Remember to try the middle-most integers first as these normally are the zeros. Also, once you get it to a quadratic, you can use your other factoring techniques to finish factoring.

---

29. Perform the division below. Then, find the intervals that correspond to the quotient in the form  $ax^2 + bx + c$  and remainder  $r$ .

$$\frac{12x^3 + 45x^2 - 21x - 39}{x + 4}$$

The solution is  $12x^2 - 3x - 9 + \frac{-3}{x+4}$ , which is option E.

- A.  $a \in [8, 13]$ ,  $b \in [90, 102]$ ,  $c \in [342, 359]$ , and  $r \in [1363, 1367]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor.

- B.  $a \in [-49, -44]$ ,  $b \in [-152, -144]$ ,  $c \in [-611, -607]$ , and  $r \in [-2475, -2471]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor AND multiplied the first factor rather than just bringing it down.

- C.  $a \in [-49, -44]$ ,  $b \in [232, 242]$ ,  $c \in [-970, -961]$ , and  $r \in [3834, 3839]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number rather than bringing the first factor down.

- D.  $a \in [8, 13]$ ,  $b \in [-16, -10]$ ,  $c \in [53, 55]$ , and  $r \in [-310, -305]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number and subtracted rather than adding during synthetic division.

- E.  $a \in [8, 13]$ ,  $b \in [-3, 4]$ ,  $c \in [-19, -8]$ , and  $r \in [-5, 4]$ .

\* This is the solution!

**General Comment:** Be sure to synthetically divide by the zero of the denominator!

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30. What are the *possible Rational* roots of the polynomial below?

$$f(x) = 3x^2 + 6x + 5$$

The solution is All combinations of:  $\frac{\pm 1, \pm 5}{\pm 1, \pm 3}$ , which is option B.

- A. All combinations of:  $\frac{\pm 1, \pm 3}{\pm 1, \pm 5}$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to the plus or minus of the inverse quotient (an/a0) of the factors.

- B. All combinations of:  $\frac{\pm 1, \pm 5}{\pm 1, \pm 3}$

\* This is the solution **since we asked for the possible Rational roots!**

- C.  $\pm 1, \pm 5$

This would have been the solution **if asked for the possible Integer roots!**

- D.  $\pm 1, \pm 3$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to the plus or minus factors of a1 only.

- E. There is no formula or theorem that tells us all possible Rational roots.

Distractor 4: Corresponds to not recalling the theorem for rational roots of a polynomial.

**General Comment:** We have a way to find the possible Rational roots. The possible Integer roots are the Integers in this list.

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